

Raga of the Month- July, 2016

SampoornaKanahara

The Raga SampoornaKanahara is of recent origin and the unique combination was conceived by Late Pandit Jotin Bhattacharya, a leading disciple of Acharya Allauddin Khan, Founder of Maihar Gharana. The Raga was created by Pandit Jotin Bhattacharya in 1971 and was recorded in 1972. The Raga is a wonderful example which demonstrates how a gifted and talented musician can carve a distinct melodious structure out of familiar 7 notes S R g M P d and n of Asavari Thata and Melakarta No. 20 NataBhairavi. There are 16 Ragas which share the same Scale with SampoornaKanahara. These Scale-Congruent Ragas include Majestic Ragas such as, DurbariKanada, Asavari, Jounpuri, SampoornaMalkouns, etc. to name a few prominent Ragas and KoushiKanada, RabKounsKanada and Suha Adana of Kanada family. However, the melody structure of Raga SampoornaKanahara is altogether different from other Scale-Congruent Ragas.

Aroha- SRgMPdnS''; Avaroha- S'' ndPMgRS; Vadi- R; Samvadi- P.
Important Phrases- S 'd'nRS, SRgM, gPMPMgMg, gMd, MdP, dnS'',
dnS''R'', R''S''nS'' dP, ndPMgRS;

'P'd'n'd S, 'nS, SRgd-P, MdP, MgRS.

It is worthwhile to note some of the prominent points of difference in melodic contours of DurbariKanada and SampoornaKanahara:

Sampoorna Kanahara does not include the phrases commonly used in Raga Durbari Kanada such as, MPS'', d~~n-P, MPg~~MRs; only d is andolit; Sampoorna Kanahara favours elaboration of the Raga in Madhya and Tar Saptaka and in medium or fast tempo, as compared to Mandra and Madhya Saptaka and slow tempo preferred in DurbariKanada. Some microtonal variations from conventional Komal Dhaivat in Raga SampoornaKanahara are observed by experts; however, guidance from a Guru is required to understand such subtle effects.

Acknowledgements: Information of the Raga: Courtesy- Pandit Amit Bhattacharya, Varanasi (son of Jotin Bhattacharya and gandabandh disciple of Guru Maa Annapurna Devi).

Please listen to a clip of the Raga SampoornaKanahara played on Sarod by Pandit Jotin Bhattacharya. Please notice that the Raga starts with a

Chher (ਚੇੜ) which expresses the central theme of the Raga in a concise form and introduces the Raga which the Artist intends to present.

(Updated on 01/07/2016.)